Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 7, 16, 18 and 22 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or added. Therefore, claims 1-13 and 16-24are presented for examination.

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kenner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,749). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Kenner. Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Kenner.

Kenner discloses a method and apparatus for implementing check instructions that allow for the reuse of memory conflict information if no memory conflict occurs. The method involves preloading one of a set of registers with data retrieved from a memory starting at a first address. It further involves storing memory conflict information representing the first address. This memory conflict information is later used for determining if a memory conflict has occurred. Then, data is stored at a second address in memory. If a memory conflict has occurred at between the first address and the second address, then one of the registers is reloaded with the data located at the first address. If a memory conflict did not occur, then the memory conflict information is left for use during subsequent memory conflict checks. See Kenner at Abstract.

Claim 1 of the present application each recite validating the stored memory conflict information with a matching address to the address of the potentially conflicting load if a data value of the stored memory conflict information is the same as a data value of the potentially conflicting load. Applicant submits that Kenner does not disclose a

process of comparing a *stored memory conflict information data value* with a *data value of a potentially conflicting load* for validation purposes.

Instead, Kenner discloses a valid indication field that stores data used both for indicating whether a memory conflict has occurred and whether the memory conflict information is valid. The valid indication field may be comprised of a single bit. This bit may be set to 1 to indicate that no memory conflict has occurred and that the memory conflict information is valid. However, this bit is set to 0 to indicate that a memory conflict has occurred and/or that the memory conflict information is invalid. See Kenner at col. 16, ll. 35-45.

Nonetheless, a valid indication field storing data to indicate whether memory conflict information is valid is **not equivalent** to comparing a *stored memory conflict information data value* with a *data value of a potentially conflicting load.* Therefore, claim 1, as well as its dependent claims, is patentable over Kenner.

Independent claims 7, 16, 18, and 22, also recite, in part, validating the stored memory conflict information with a matching address to the address of the potentially conflicting load if a data value of the stored memory conflict information is the same as a data value of the potentially conflicting load. As discussed above, Kenner does not disclose or suggest such a feature. Therefore, claims 7, 16, 18, and 22, as well as their respective dependent claims, are patentable over Kenner for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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